

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Welcher et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1743
)	
Application No.: 10/539,035)	Examiner: Brian J. Sines
)	
Filed: June 14, 2005)	
)	
For: ADVANCE PROGRAMMED)	Confirmation No.: 9296
SAMPLE PROCESSING SYSTEM)	
AND METHODS OF BIOLOGICAL		
SLIDE PROCESSING		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper beginning at page 2.

Remarks follow the amendment section of this paper.